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Technology Center 2100

TED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: INGRAM, et al.

Art Unit: 2177

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Technology Center 2100

Appl. No. 09/847,999

Confirmation No. 7592

Filed: May 4, 2001

For: ENHANCED HYPERLINK

Atty. Docket No. 43799-20479

Examiner: Pham, Khanh B.

Customer No.

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Request for Allowance and Petition Under 37 C.F.R. \$1.183

Honorable Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Final Office Action dated November 6, 2003, Applicants request that the captioned application be passed to allowance.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are needed to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims), and any other fee deficiency are hereby authorized to be charged, any overpayments credited to, our Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

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Application No.: 09/847,999 Applicants: INGRAM et al.

Remarks

All pending claims of the captioned patent application, claims 31-33, were rejected by the Examiner in the November 6, 2003 on two bases. First, all pending claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over art cited by the Examiner. Second, all pending claims were provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as claims 174-176 of U.S. Patent Application 09/594,786 (referred to hereinafter as the '786 application).

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) was appealed to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (Appeal No. 2004-2266). In the Decision on Appeal, the BPAI reversed the decision of the Examiner with regard to the rejection of claims 31-33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Decision on Appeal, May 26, 2005, Paper No. 27, pp. 7, 8.

As for the provisional double patenting rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101, the BPAI sustained this rejection *pro forma*. Claims 174-176 of '786 application have been canceled, however. Amendment and Reply, August 26, 2004, p. 3, U.S. Patent Application 09/594,786. As stated by the Examiner in the present application, "A statutory (35 U.S.C. §101) double patenting rejection can be overcome by canceling or amending the conflicting claims so they are no longer coextensive in scope." Office Action, November 6, 2003, Paper No. 11, p. 9, U.S. Patent Application 09/847,999.

Because claims 174-176 of '786 application have been canceled, there are no "conflicting

Application No.: 09/847,999 Applicants: INGRAM et al.

claims" still pending. The double patenting rejection of the present application has therefore been overcome.

In summary, the rejection of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been reversed by the BPAI, and the double patenting rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 has been rendered moot in light of the timely cancellation of the conflicting claims in the '786 application. For these reasons, the applicants respectfully request that the captioned application be passed to allowance.

In the event that the Examiner does not pass the application to allowance, applicants hereby petition for a Suspension of the Rules under 37 C.F.R. §1.183. In light of the circumstances outlined above, justice requires that the present application be passed to allowance and not be abandoned. All rejections of the pending claims have either been reversed by the BPAI or timely rendered moot. An abandonment of the application instigated by the USPTO would represent an injustice, given that no grounds for rejection remain.

Application No.: 09/847,999 Applicants: INGRAM et al.

Conclusion

The rejection of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been reversed by the BPAI, and the double patenting rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 has been rendered moot in light of the cancellation of the conflicting claims in the '786 application. For these reasons, the applicants respectfully request that the captioned application be passed to allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite allowance of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of the Request is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 25, 2005

Elm. zu Edward W. Yee

Attorney/Agent for Applicants

Registration No. 47,294

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